

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT  
(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)



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| Applicant's or agent's file reference<br>JOO/lek   | <b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/PEA416) |  |
| International application No.<br>PCT/NO 03/00224   | International filing date (day/month/year)<br>30.06.2003  | Priority date (day/month/year)<br>28.06.2002 |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC<br>G08B17/00 |   |  |
| Applicant<br>STS STILLASSERVICE AS et al.  |   |  |

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.  
  
☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the opinion
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

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|---|---|
| Date of submission of the demand<br><br>23.01.2004  | Date of completion of this report<br><br>26.11.2004   |
| Name and mailing address of the international preliminary examining authority:<br><br> European Patent Office<br>D-80298 Munich<br>Tel. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 epmu d<br>Fax: +49 89 2399 - 4465 | Authorized Officer<br><br>Faoro, G<br><br>Telephone No. +49 89 2399-2650<br><br> |

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. PCT/NO 03/00224

**I. Basis of the report**

1. With regard to the elements of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17))*):

**Description, Pages**

1-9 as published

**Claims, Numbers**

1-10 as published

**Drawings, Sheets**

1/2-2/2 as published

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages:
- ☐ the claims, Nos.:
- ☐ the drawings, sheets:

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. **PCT/NO 03/00224**

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)).

*(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)*

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

**V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

**1. Statement**

|                               |             |      |
|-------------------------------|-------------|------|
| Novelty (N)                   | Yes: Claims | 1-10 |
|                               | No: Claims  |      |
| Inventive step (IS)           | Yes: Claims |      |
|                               | No: Claims  | 1-10 |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Yes: Claims | 1-10 |
|                               | No: Claims  |      |

**2. Citations and explanations**

**see separate sheet**

**To Section V**

1) The invention relates to a device for a security system of a potentially dangerous installation (e.g. presence of gases) in connection with an habitat isolated from the surroundings by air overpressure and where dangerous conditions may occur (sparks, heat generation etc.) causing hazard situations in the installation.

The solution proposed consists in the provision in or adjacent the habitat of a number of detectors monitoring parameters (e.g. temperature, gases, pressure) inherent to the security of the installation and a shut-down central causing the shut-down of the equipment inside the habitat if dangerous values of those parameters are measured by said sensors.

2) Nearest prior art document WO 0139222 (D1), cited in the ISR, discloses an emergency gas and electricity shut off apparatus and a control system triggered by a suitable sensor during an emergency situation such as seismic events or fires to shut off the gas or electricity supply so as prevent dangerous situations in the protected "habitat" such as a house.

The essential features of present claim 1 of monitoring the sensitive parameters concerning the security of an installation and shutting off the operation of potentially dangerous equipment is therefore generally well known to the skilled man, who will have no difficulty in the choice and positioning of the potentially dangerous parameter sensors to be monitored in function of the "habitat" to be protected and the potential danger involved. The particular type of habitat "isolated from the surroundings" referred to in the application and in the claim is not deemed to require a particular inventive effort for the skilled man to account for his peculiarity, as the choice of the parameters inherent to it are obvious.

The subject-matter of claim 1 therefore does not satisfy the criterion set forth in Art. 33(3) PCT as not inventive with respect to D1.

3) The additional features of the dependent claims do not appear to disclose subject-matter of inventive significance as the proposed features are obvious and logical to the person skilled in the art, especially as the advantages thus achieved can readily be foreseen as a function of installation to be protected and of the dangers involved. Consequently, the subject-matter of claims 2 to 10 also lacks an inventive step.